IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

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In re Application of:

Keisuke NAKAI et al.

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This paper is being provided prior to examination of the above-captioned U.S. patent application.

Amendments to the Claims are including in a listing beginning on page 2 of this paper. Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required for consideration of this paper (including fees for net addition of claims) are authorized to be charged in two originally-executed copies of a Patent Application Transmittal Letter filed herewith.